

Correct Seismic Deficiencies through Demolition Buildings 10, 13, & 14
VA261-13-B-0521

1. Is the contractor or the VA responsible for hiring an Archaeologist?
VA: A registered and third party qualified Archaeologist whose services are retained and PAID for by Contractor shall perform services specified herein and other specification sections. Please refer to project documents for further information.
2. Possible re-site walk after Asbestos/Lead survey is posted to FBO?
VA: Possible, please send formal RFI after the documents are posted requesting an additional site walk if needed.
3. Solicitation states that the QC person shall be FT for 365 calendar days. The period of performance is only for 120 calendar days, why is it stated this way?
VA: Contractor shall provide QC Manager WHENEVER IS NECESSARY during construction to perform his duty per Quality Control Specification Section 01 45 00. Contractor shall provide qualified FULL TIME Superintendent during the duration of construction. Refer to Drawing GI002 General Notes. 3.
4. Can a contractor with an A license sub-out to a C21?
VA: Contractor should have Licensed Subcontractors for various trades wherever applicable. Please note VAAR 852.29-10 *VA Notice of Total Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Set-Aside (DEC 2009) (c)(4)*. This clause is in full text in the solicitation.
5. The AC units, Split units & Misc. items to be salvaged
VA: Contractor shall count and quantify all existing HVAC units & items to be salvaged. Contractor shall include all fees & cost in their bid package. For further information of Salvaged details, refer to project documents and drawings.
6. Mobile furniture type items remaining in the building.
VA: All Mobile furniture, picture frames, desks, chairs, file cabinets and etc. will be removed by the VA prior to the contractor gaining control of the buildings. Any items that were not removed by VA shall become Contractors' property and to be removed by Contractor at no additional cost to Government.
7. Section 00-01-15 of the project manual lists drawing #'s CD100 and CD101 which are not included in the contract documents. Do these actually exist and are they part of the contract documents bid set?
VA: Yes, they are part of the contract. Drawings were posted as solicitation amendment number A0002.
8. Please confirm per section 32-05-23-3.20-D.- the use of liquid membrane curing compound is allowed to be used to cure concrete for this project?
VA: 7 days wet curing process when temperatures are 90 degrees and over. If the project takes place when temperatures are below the above mentioned temperatures, then the curing compound method is acceptable.

9. Per section Pavement Marking 32-17-23-3.1.B, it calls to “thoroughly clean all surfaces before application of paint”. Is pressure washing an acceptable method of cleaning as the concrete is still ‘green’ after 14 days? Also, please confirm that neutralizing the concrete prior to paint application as called out in previous projects is not required.

VA: Pressure washing is acceptable if it meets the requirement subjected to VA COR’s inspection and approval. If pressure washing does not meet the requirement then alternate means and methods may be required.

10. Will the new ‘site irrigation and landscape improvement project’ be constructed concurrently with this project? Please advise if so, how will conflicts be prevented or resolved as to site fencing, staging, and access to the project between the two projects.

VA: Yes. For staging area, please refer to staging layout as attached. Coordinate with COR during construction.

11. Will the government be providing accurate and up to date as-builts plans prior to bid?

VA: The underground utilities shown in CD100 and CD101 have been located from field survey information and existing records of utility companies. The VA and the design professional make no guarantees that the underground utilities shown comprise all such utilities in the area, either in service or abandoned. Neither the VA nor the design professional warrant that the underground utilities shown are in the exact location indicated, although the VA and the design professional certify that they are located as accurately as possible from information available. Neither the VA nor the design professional has physically located the underground utilities, and the construction contractor is advised to utilize hand-digging methods or hire utilities Locator Company to verify the existence and locations of existing utilities.

12. How will the government handle unforeseen conditions, e.g. utilities found or damaged that were not shown on the as-builts? Please note that the contractor can only attempt to locate utilities (pre-existing conditions) that have been provided by the government.

VA: The solicitation includes FAR clause 52.236-2 *Differing Site Conditions* by reference.

13. Is the archeologist required to be on site during landscape operations (trenching & planting)? For bidding purposes, should the contractor assume full time presence of the archeologist during this project?

VA: The Archeologist needs to be present full time during demolition of buildings and underground utilities only.

14. Spec section 01-00-00-1.9-A.1 calls out that reserved items which are to remain property of the government are identified by attached tags or noted on drawing or in specifications s items to be stored. Please clarify specifically what items the government is reserving and wants stored.

VA: These items are identified in sheets CD100 & CD101

15. Will a soils report be provided per spec section 01-00-00-1.12-B & C?

VA: There is no soil report for this site. Soil report is not applicable to this project.

16. Please clarify what the government is requesting for final close-out docs from the land surveyor per section 01-00-00-1.13, as this requirement seems just to be adding costs to the project.
VA: Yes, final close out document is required from land surveyor to confirm the elevations but not limited to underground utilities and finish grade. Contractor shall provide VA with as-graded plans. Plans are to be submitted to VA upon completion of grading.
17. Per section 01-00-00-1.22-F., water is available at no cost to the contractor. Where can the contractor access this water for this site?
VA: Yes, site water will be available. The cost of backflow preventer, digging, and connection will be the contractor's responsibility. Location and connection to be determined through coordination with the VA COR.
18. Is a construction sign required for this project per section 01-00-00-1.29?
VA: Construction sign is not required for this project. Additional construction signage notes on sheet G1002
19. Please clarify requirements for the section of photography 01-00-00-1.31 & 1.32:
VA: Per specification, digital image shall be provided to VA. These digital images do not have to be taken by "commercial/professional photographer".
20. Will advance notice and permission need to give to the government prior to taking pictures of the site as detailed in the contract documents?
VA: Yes. Advance notice and permission is needed if picture is to be taken outside construction site. Coordinate with COR for direction.
21. Define what the government considers a 'professional photographer'?
VA: Commercial/professional photographer is not required if the delivered photography meet the specification requirement.
22. Please clarify per section 01-32-16.15-1.3 if a consultant not associated with the contractor is required to maintain the project schedule?
VA: Refer to parts 1.2 for project scheduling option.
23. In section 02-21-00, it calls out for a professional land surveyor to perform a lot of un-needed tasks for this project which is very costly. Please confirm this section is required and will be part of the bidding requirements.
VA: Yes, final close out document is required from land survey to confirm the elevations but not limited to underground utilities and finish grade.
24. Are joint fillers required on contraction and/or construction joints for concrete flatwork as required in past projects?
VA: No. Only expansion material at every expansion joint is required.
25. Per note 16, G1002 calls out that contractor shall pay for all required compaction tests, yet spec section 01-45-29-1.1 Testing Lab Services calls out "all material testing activities and inspection services required during project is to be retained by Dept. of Veterans Affairs. Clarify what the contractor is responsible for and what the Dept. of VA is responsible for paying.
VA: All testing activities and inspection whose services are retained by VA and PAID for by Contractor shall perform services specified herein and other specification sections.

26. Per note 17, G1002, will USA come on the VA site to locate utilities?

VA: It is contractor's responsibilities to contact USA prior to digging. It is contractor's responsibility to locate these utilities prior to digging. The construction contractor is advised to utilize hand-digging methods or hire Utilities Locator Company to verify the existence and locations of existing utilities.

27. After reading over the Landscape specifications, it appears that these are the Boiler plate VA Specs and have not been edited for this specific project.

One Example, section 32-84-00 1.8: c, calls for submitting a complete design of the irrigations system. The plans in the solicitation already show the irrigation design.

VA: Contractor is required to submit shop drawings to VA for review and approval prior to construction. For details, refer to specification section 01 33 23.

28. Referencing page CD100 line (F) concerning high voltage line disconnect and transformer removal, and page E601 Electrical Single Line Diagram: Clarification of building that are powered by (S6) in (Bay 6) on single line diagram of E601 and or powered from emergency power system that seems to be intergraded.

VA: Supplemental drawings / clarification will be posted on amendment #A0004 no later than 12:00 pm Wednesday March 6th.

29. Please clarify the grading and landscape portion for after demolition of Building 14. There are no grading plans for that building. It looks like you want to leave it ruff graded after demo.

VA: Supplemental drawings / clarification will be posted on Amendment #A0004 no later than 12:00 pm Wednesday March 6th.